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Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Pedro **Cardoso** (Brazil)

I. Introduction

1. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2005, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item at its 6th to 9th, 14th, 21st and 33rd meetings, on 7, 10, 13 and 21 October and on 2 November 2005. At its 6th to 9th meetings, on 7 and 10 October, the Committee held a general discussion on item 106 jointly with item 107. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/60/SR.6-9, 14, 21 and 33).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/60/123);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity (A/60/131);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin (A/60/157);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in preventing and combating terrorism (A/60/164);

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(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/60/172);

(e) Note verbale dated 28 September 2005 from the Permanent Mission of Madagascar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/60/403-S/2005/621);

(f) Letter dated 29 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/60/405-S/2005/623).

4. At the 6th meeting, on 7 October, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Director General of the United Nations Office at Vienna made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/60/SR.6).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee engaged in a question-and-answer session with the Executive Director in which the representatives of Afghanistan, El Salvador, Kuwait, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Nigeria, Colombia, Pakistan, Mexico and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya took part (see A/C.3/60/SR.6).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.8 and Rev.1

6. At the 14th meeting, on 13 October, the representative of Italy, on behalf of Argentina, Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity" (A/C.3/60/L.8), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 59/159 of 20 December 2004 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

"*Bearing in mind* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, as well as the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice and its plans of action,

"*Welcoming* the commitment to combat transnational crime contained in the 2005 World Summit Outcome of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, held in New York from 14 to 16 September 2005,

"*Emphasizing* the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and the rule of law and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

"*Recognizing* that action against global crime is a common and shared responsibility, and stressing the need to work collectively to combat transnational crime,

"*Convinced* of the need for closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime in all its forms and manifestations, including criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism, and bearing in mind the role that is played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

"*Welcoming* the outcomes of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Bangkok in April 2005, which provided a crucial opportunity to exchange views and experiences and to identify and counter emerging trends and issues in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

"*Recognizing* existing efforts at the regional level that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in combating corruption, the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, noting in this context the ongoing work of the Bali and Puebla Processes, and recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the pledge of the General Assembly to support the consolidation of democracy in Africa and to assist Africans in their struggle for sustainable human development,

"*Welcoming* the imminent entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, opened for signature in Merida, Mexico, in December 2003,

"*Bearing in mind* all its relevant resolutions, in particular those related to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as the universal instruments against terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, adopted by the General Assembly on 13 April 2005,

"*Bearing in mind also* all relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 2005/14, 2005/15, 2005/16, 2005/17, 2005/18 and 2005/19 of 22 July 2005 and all those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, including in the context of post-conflict reconstruction,

"*Acknowledging* the role of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and their development, as reflected in Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/28 of 21 July 2004,

"*Recalling* its relevant resolutions in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandate, in conformity with the high priority attached to the Programme,

"*Aware* of the continued increase in requests for technical assistance forwarded to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including in the context of post-conflict reconstruction, and recognizing the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the Office between all priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

"*Expressing its appreciation* for the funding provided by certain Member States, which in recent years has permitted the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant bodies to enhance their capacity to execute an increased number of projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

"1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/159;

"2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

"3. *Reiterates its appreciation* of the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in coordinating international cooperation efforts, and requests that a gender perspective continue to be integrated into all programmes and activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

"4. *Reaffirms* the importance of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including to prevent and combat terrorism in coordination with and complementing the work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism;

"5. *Reaffirms also* the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance

in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism as well as in the area of reconstruction of national criminal justice systems, and stresses the need to enhance, within its existing mandate, its operational activities to assist, in particular, least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including in the context of post-conflict reconstruction;

"6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to intensify its efforts to provide Member States with technical assistance, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, in particular through training in the judicial and prosecutorial fields in the proper implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, with particular emphasis on the need to coordinate such work with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its executive directorate;

"7. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to take into account in its technical assistance programme to counter terrorism the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law with a view to facilitating the effective implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism and relevant Security Council resolutions;

"8. *Expresses its grave concern* at the negative effects on development, peace and security and human rights posed by transnational crime, including trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons and trafficking of illicit drugs and the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime;

"9. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the global programmes addressing trafficking in human beings, corruption, organized crime and terrorism, and calls upon the Secretary-General to enhance further the visibility of those programmes and to strengthen the focus of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on these priority programmes in crime prevention and criminal justice by providing it with the adequate resources for their full implementation;

"10. *Endorses* the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, adopted at the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Bangkok from 18 to 25 April 2005;

"11. *Invites* all States to significantly increase their support to the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund or through voluntary contributions in direct support of such activities, including for the provision of technical assistance for the implementation of the plans of action of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice as well as of the commitments entered into at

the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the measures outlined in the Bangkok Declaration;

"12. *Also invites* all States to support, through voluntary contributions, the activities carried out by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant bodies;

"13. *Urges* States and relevant international organizations to develop national, regional and international strategies and other necessary measures to complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in effectively addressing transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons and related criminal activities such as kidnapping, as well as smuggling of migrants and corruption;

"14. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

"15. *Encourages* relevant entities of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and invites the international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and regional and national funding agencies to increase further their support of and interaction with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to benefit from synergies and avoid duplication of effort and to ensure that, as appropriate, activities on crime prevention and criminal justice and the promotion of the rule of law are considered in their sustainable development agenda and that the expertise of the Office is fully utilized;

"16. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction;

"17. *Also welcomes* the outcome of the round-table meeting entitled "Crime and Drugs as Impediments to Security and Development in Africa", hosted by the Government of Nigeria in Abuja in September 2005, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/32 of 21 July 2004, in the form of a comprehensive programme of action 2006-2010 to strengthen the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa, which invites all African States, regional and subregional institutions, financial institutions and development partners to integrate the issues of crime and drugs into their development strategies and into official development assistance for Africa;

"18. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

"19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to enable it to promote in an effective manner the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the Parties to that Convention in accordance with its mandate, and requests the Secretary-

General to transmit to the General Assembly the reports of the Conference of the Parties;

"20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policymaking body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant bodies;

"21. *Urges* all States and competent regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;

"22. *Welcomes* the voluntary contributions already made, and encourages States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention or in direct support of implementation activities and initiatives;

"23. *Encourages* Member States to take into account the Model Bilateral Agreement on the Sharing of Confiscated Proceeds of Crime or Property annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/14 of 22 July 2005, as a useful model for those States interested in negotiating and concluding bilateral agreements to facilitate the sharing of proceeds of crime, resulting in greater international cooperation in that area, such cooperation being one of the principal objectives of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

"24. *Urges* all States and competent regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to sign, ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

"25. *Encourages* States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which is due to enter into force on 14 December 2005, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention or in direct support of implementation activities and initiatives;

"26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session."

7. At the 33rd meeting, on 2 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/60/L.8/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.8 and Afghanistan, Armenia, Bolivia, Canada, Cuba, Guinea, Iceland, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, the Philippines and Viet Nam. Subsequently, Algeria, Angola, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Haiti, Indonesia, Mali, Mozambique, the Niger, the Republic of Moldova, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Uganda, the United States of America and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

8. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the revised draft resolution by replacing the words "resolution 60/1 of 16 September of 2005" by the words "resolution 60/__ of __" in the eighth preambular paragraph, with the understanding that this referred to draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.11/Rev.1 which had been adopted by the Committee on 21 October.

9. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary read out a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.8/Rev.1, as orally corrected, without a vote (see para. 21, draft resolution I).

11. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement (see A/C.3/60/SR.33).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.10

12. At the 14th meeting, on 13 October, the representative of Namibia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders" (A/C.3/60/L.10).

13. At its 21st meeting, on 21 October, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.10 without a vote (see para. 21, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.11 and Rev.1

15. At the 14th meeting, on 13 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Panama, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice" (A/C.3/60/L.11), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, in which it emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments to stay fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits and invited its intergovernmental bodies to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

"*Recalling further* its resolution 59/151 of 20 December 2004, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the resolution and to report thereon, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session,

"*Having considered* the report of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the related recommendation made by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session,

"1. *Endorses* the Bangkok Declaration adopted by the Eleventh Congress, as approved by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

"2. *Invites* Governments to take into consideration the Bangkok Declaration and the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh Congress in formulating legislation and policy directives and to make all efforts, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein, taking into account the economic, social, legal and cultural specificities of their respective States;

"3. *Invites* Member States to identify areas covered in the Bangkok Declaration where further tools and training manuals based on international standards and best practices are needed, and to submit that information to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice so that it may take it into account when considering potential areas of future activity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to distribute the report of the Eleventh Congress, including the Bangkok Declaration, to Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, so as to ensure that its recommendations are disseminated as widely as possible, and to seek proposals by Member States for ways and means of ensuring appropriate follow-up to the Bangkok Declaration for consideration and action by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session;

"5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its sixty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

16. At its 21st meeting, on 21 October, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/60/L.11/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.11 and Austria, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Colombia, Guatemala, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Singapore, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United States of America and Zambia. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, the Congo, the Gambia, Greece, Haiti, Italy, Malawi, Mali, Mongolia, Peru, the Sudan, Turkey, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

17. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

18. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the draft resolution by inserting the words "among others" after the words "in areas" in operative paragraph 3 of the annex.

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/60/L.11/Rev.1, as orally corrected, without a vote (see para. 21, draft resolution III).

D. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

20. At its 33rd meeting, on 2 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the following reports (see para. 22):

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin (A/60/157);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/60/172).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

21. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

Recalling also its resolution 59/159 of 20 December 2004 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Bearing in mind the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] as well as the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice[2] and its plans of action,[3]

Reaffirming the commitment to combat transnational crime, undertaken by Heads of State and Government during the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, held in New York from 14 to 16 September 2005,[4]

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and the rule of law and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Recognizing that action against global crime is a common and shared responsibility, and stressing the need to work collectively to combat transnational crime,

Convinced of the need for closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime in all its forms and manifestations, including criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism, inter alia, through the development by the General Assembly of a comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy, and bearing in mind the role that is played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Reaffirming, according to its resolution 60/____ of _____, the commitment of the Member States to implement the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal

[1] See resolution 55/2.
[2] Resolution 55/59, annex.
[3] Resolution 56/261, annex.
[4] See resolution 60/1.

Justice,[5] adopted by the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Bangkok from 18 to 25 April 2005,

Recognizing existing efforts at the regional level that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in combating corruption, the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, noting in this context the ongoing work of the Bali and Puebla Processes,[6] and recalling the main United Nations conferences and the pledge to encourage and support frameworks initiated at the regional level, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development and similar efforts in other regions,

Welcoming the imminent entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[7] opened for signature in Merida, Mexico, in December 2003,

Bearing in mind all its relevant resolutions, in particular those related to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[8] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as the universal instruments against terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, adopted by the General Assembly on 13 April 2005,[9]

Bearing in mind also all relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 2005/14, 2005/15, 2005/16, 2005/17, 2005/18 and 2005/19 of 22 July 2005 and all those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, including in the context of post-conflict reconstruction, and on the implementation of technical assistance in Africa,

Acknowledging the role of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and their development, as reflected in Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/28 of 21 July 2004,

Aware of the continued increase in requests for technical assistance forwarded to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including in the context of post-conflict reconstruction, and recognizing the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the Office between all priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

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[5] A/CONF.203/18, chap. I, resolution 1.

[6] Most recently the ninth meeting of the Regional Conference on Migration, held in Panama City on 20 and 21 May 2004 as part of the Puebla Process, and the Senior Officials' Meeting of the Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, held in Brisbane, Australia, on 7 and 8 June 2004 as part of the Bali Process.

[7] Resolution 58/4, annex.

[8] Resolution 55/25, annexes I-III, and resolution 55/255, annex.

[9] Resolution 59/290, annex.

Expressing its appreciation for the resources provided by certain Member States, which in recent years has permitted the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant bodies to enhance their capacity to execute an increased number of projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/159;[10]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

3. *Reiterates its appreciation* of the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to coordinate international cooperation efforts, and requests that a gender perspective continue to be integrated into all programmes and activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies, including the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate;

5. *Reaffirms also* the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime, trafficking in human beings, in all its aspects, smuggling of migrants and corruption, as well as in the area of reconstruction of national criminal justice systems, and stresses the need to enhance, in accordance with its existing mandates, its operational activities to assist, in particular, least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including in the context of post-conflict reconstruction;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts to provide Member States with technical assistance, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[9] in particular through training in the judicial and prosecutorial fields in their proper implementation, taking into account, in its programmes, the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen fair and effective criminal justice systems and the rule of law as an integral component of any strategy to counter terrorism;

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[10] A/60/131.

7. *Expresses its grave concern* at the negative effects on development, peace and security and human rights posed by transnational crime, including trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons and trafficking of illicit drugs, and the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime;

8. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the global programmes addressing trafficking in human beings, including support and protection of victims, corruption, organized crime, money-laundering and terrorism, and calls upon the Secretary-General to enhance further the effectiveness of those programmes and to strengthen the focus of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on these priority programmes in crime prevention and criminal justice;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with its high priorities;

10. *Invites* all States to increase their support to the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund or through voluntary contributions in direct support of such activities, including for the provision of technical assistance for the implementation of the plans of action[3] of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice,[2] as well as of the commitments undertaken at the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the measures outlined in the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;[5]

11. *Also invites* all States to support, through voluntary contributions, the activities carried out by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant bodies;

12. *Urges* States and relevant international organizations to develop national, regional and international strategies and other necessary measures to complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in addressing effectively transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons and related criminal activities such as kidnappings and the smuggling of migrants, as well as corruption and terrorism;

13. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

14. *Encourages* relevant entities of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and invites the international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and regional and national funding agencies to increase further their support to and their interaction with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to benefit from synergies and avoid duplication of effort and to ensure that, as appropriate, activities on crime prevention and criminal justice, including activities related to the prevention of corruption, and the promotion of the rule of law are considered in

their sustainable development agenda and that the expertise of the Office is fully utilized;

15. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction;

16. *Also welcomes* the outcomes of the round-table meeting entitled "Crime and Drugs as Impediments to Security and Development in Africa", hosted by the Government of Nigeria in Abuja in September 2005 in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/32 of 21 July 2004, in the form of a comprehensive programme of action 2006-2010 to strengthen the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa, which invites all African States, regional and subregional institutions, financial institutions and development partners to integrate the issues of crime and drugs into their development strategies and into official development assistance for Africa;

17. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources so as to enable it to promote in an effective manner and, as appropriate, under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[8] and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with its mandate, and requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly the reports of that Conference;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policymaking body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant bodies;

20. *Urges* all States and competent regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to sign, ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the Protocols thereto, as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption[7] and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, including the newly adopted International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism;

21. *Welcomes* the voluntary contributions already made, and encourages States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention or in direct support of implementation activities and initiatives;

22. *Encourages* Member States to take into account the Model Bilateral Agreement on the Sharing of Confiscated Proceeds of Crime or Property annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/14 of 22 July 2005 as a useful model for those States interested in negotiating and concluding bilateral agreements to facilitate the sharing of confiscated proceeds of crime, resulting in greater international cooperation in that area, such cooperation being one of the principal objectives of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

23. *Encourages* States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which is due to enter into force on 14 December 2005, through the Global Programme against Corruption of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime or in direct support of implementation activities and initiatives;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session.

Draft resolution II
United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 59/158 of 20 December 2004 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Bearing in mind the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Noting that the financial situation of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to provide the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States and non-governmental organizations to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and to implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to work closely with the Institute;

[1] A/60/123.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make concrete proposals, including the provision of additional core professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft Resolution III
Follow-up to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, in which it emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments to stay fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits and invited its intergovernmental bodies to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling also its resolution 59/151 of 20 December 2004, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the resolution and to report thereon, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session,

Having considered the report of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice[1] and the related recommendation made by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session,

Bearing in mind its resolution 60/___ of _____ on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity, and the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the implementation of the measures outlined in the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[2]

1. *Endorses* the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as contained in the annex to the present resolution, adopted by the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and approved by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session and subsequently by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2005/15 of 22 July 2005;

2. *Invites* Governments to implement the Bangkok Declaration and the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh Congress in formulating legislation and policy directives, taking into account the economic, social, legal and cultural specificities of their respective States;

3. *Reaffirms* the readiness of Member States, in a spirit of common and shared responsibility, as acknowledged in the Bangkok Declaration, to seek to improve international cooperation in the fight against crime and terrorism, at the multilateral, regional and bilateral levels, in areas including extradition and mutual legal assistance;

4. *Invites* Member States to identify areas covered in the Bangkok Declaration in which further tools and training manuals based on international standards and best practices are needed, and to submit that information to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice so that it may take it into

[1] A/CONF.203/18.

[2] Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1.

account when considering potential areas of future activity by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to distribute the report of the Eleventh Congress,[1] including the Bangkok Declaration, to Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, so as to ensure that its recommendations are disseminated as widely as possible, and to seek proposals by Member States for ways and means of ensuring appropriate follow-up to the Bangkok Declaration for consideration and action by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session a report on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity, including a chapter on the Bangkok Declaration, the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh Congress and the implementation of the present resolution.

Annex

Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

We, the States Members of the United Nations,

Having assembled at the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Bangkok from 18 to 25 April 2005, to decide to take more effective concerted action, in a spirit of cooperation, to combat crime and seek justice,

Convinced that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, which constitute a major intergovernmental forum, have contributed to national policies and practices by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels, thus making a significant contribution to progress and the promotion of international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recalling the work of the ten previous United Nations congresses,

Reaffirming the responsibility vested in the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme to work, together with Member States and regional and international organizations, in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice,

Greatly concerned by the expansion and dimensions of transnational organized crime, including illicit drug trafficking, money-laundering, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, illegal arms trafficking and terrorism, and any existing links among them, and by the increasing sophistication and diversification of the activities of organized criminal groups,

Emphasizing that enhancing dialogue among civilizations, promoting tolerance, preventing the indiscriminate targeting of different religions and cultures and addressing development issues and unresolved conflicts will contribute to international cooperation, which is among the most important elements to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and reaffirming that no terrorist act can be justified in any circumstance,

Reaffirming that States must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with all of their obligations under international law and that they should adopt such measures in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Alarmed by the rapid growth, geographical extent and effects of new economic and financial crimes, which have emerged as significant threats to national economies and the international financial system,

Highlighting the need for an integrated and systemic approach to combating corruption and money-laundering, within existing frameworks and instruments, in particular those under the aegis of the United Nations, since those crimes can be conducive to the perpetration of other criminal activities,

Noting with appreciation the work of the regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[1]

Declare as follows:

1. We proclaim our political will and commitment to achieve the aspirations and objectives as set out in the present Declaration.

2. We reaffirm our continued support for and commitment to the United Nations and to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, especially the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the institutes of the Programme network, and resolve to strengthen the Programme further through sustained funding, as appropriate.

3. In a spirit of common and shared responsibility, we reaffirm our readiness to seek to improve international cooperation in the fight against crime and terrorism, at the multilateral, regional and bilateral levels, in areas, among others, including extradition and mutual legal assistance. We seek to ensure our national capacity and, where appropriate, the coherence of our international capacity, through the United Nations and other relevant global and regional organizations, to engage in international cooperation, in particular in the prevention, investigation, prosecution and adjudication of transnational organized crime and terrorism and in the discovery of any existing links among them.

4. We welcome the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and two of its Protocols.[2] We call upon all States that have not yet done so to seek to ratify or accede to and implement the provisions of that Convention and its Protocols, as well as the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption[3] and the international instruments against terrorism. In implementing the provisions of those instruments, we commit ourselves to full compliance with our obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law. We support every effort to facilitate the implementation of those instruments.

5. We call upon donor States and financial institutions to continue to make adequate voluntary contributions on a regular basis for the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and to countries with economies in transition, in order to help build their capacity to prevent and tackle crime in all its forms and apply the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and, in particular, to facilitate their becoming parties to and implementing the international instruments against terrorism and the relevant international instruments against crime, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the international drug control conventions.

6. We support a more integrated approach within the United Nations in relation to the provision of assistance for building capacity in crime prevention and

[1] A/CONF.203/RPM.1/1, A/CONF.203/RPM.2/1, A/CONF.203/RPM.3/1 and Corr.1 and A/CONF.203/RPM.4/1.

[2] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annexes I-III.

[3] General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

criminal justice, and in cooperation in criminal matters of a transnational character, as a contribution to the establishment and strengthening of the rule of law.

7. We seek to improve our responses to crime and terrorism nationally and internationally, inter alia, by collecting and sharing information on crime and terrorism and on effective countermeasures, in accordance with national legislation. We welcome the important work done by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network in the area of trends in crime and justice.

8. We are convinced that upholding the rule of law and good governance and proper management of public affairs and public property at the local, national and international levels are prerequisites for creating and sustaining an environment for successfully preventing and combating crime. We are committed to the development and maintenance of fair and efficient criminal justice institutions, including the humane treatment of all those in pre-trial and correctional facilities, in accordance with applicable international standards.

9. We recognize the role of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, in contributing to the prevention of and the fight against crime and terrorism. We encourage the adoption of measures to strengthen this role within the rule of law.

10. We recognize that comprehensive and effective crime prevention strategies can significantly reduce crime and victimization. We urge that such strategies address the root causes and risk factors of crime and victimization and that they be further developed and implemented at the local, national and international levels, taking into account, inter alia, the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime.[4]

11. We note that countries emerging from conflict are particularly vulnerable to crime, in particular organized crime and corruption, and therefore recommend that Member States, regional organizations and international entities such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and other relevant entities, provide more effective responses to these problems, in order to re-establish, strengthen or sustain the rule of law and deliver justice in post-conflict situations.

12. With regard to the increased involvement of organized criminal groups in the theft of and trafficking in cultural property and illicit trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna, we recognize the importance of combating these forms of crime and, bearing in mind the relevant international legal instruments, such as the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,[5] the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[6] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[7] we call upon Member States to take effective measures to strengthen international cooperation.

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[4] Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/13, annex.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 823, No. 11806.

[6] Ibid., vol. 993, No. 14537.

[7] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

13. We note with concern the rise in kidnapping and trafficking in persons, which constitute serious, profitable and inhumane forms of organized crime, often committed with the objective of funding criminal organizations and, in some cases, terrorist activities, and hence recommend that measures be devised to combat these crimes and that attention be given to the creation of practical mechanisms for countering them. We recognize the need to implement measures intended to provide adequate assistance and protection to victims of kidnapping and trafficking in persons and their families.

14. Mindful of General Assembly resolution 59/156 of 20 December 2004 on preventing, combating and punishing trafficking in human organs, we note the serious concerns raised about the illicit removal of and trafficking in human organs and will examine with interest the report of the Secretary-General requested in that resolution.

15. We reaffirm the fundamental importance of the implementation of existing instruments and the further development of national measures and international cooperation in relation to criminal matters, such as consideration of strengthening and augmenting measures, in particular against cybercrime, money-laundering and trafficking in cultural property, as well as extradition, mutual legal assistance and the confiscation, recovery and return of proceeds of crime.

16. We note that, in the current period of globalization, information technology and the rapid development of new telecommunication and computer network systems have been accompanied by the abuse of those technologies for criminal purposes. We therefore welcome efforts to enhance and supplement existing cooperation to prevent, investigate and prosecute high-technology and computer-related crime, including through the development of partnerships with the private sector. We recognize the important contribution of the United Nations to regional and other international forums in the fight against cybercrime and invite the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, taking into account that experience, to examine the feasibility of providing further assistance in that area under the aegis of the United Nations, in partnership with other similarly focused organizations.

17. We recognize the importance of giving special attention to the need to protect witnesses and victims of crime and terrorism, and we commit ourselves to strengthening, where needed, the legal and financial framework for providing support to such victims, taking into account, inter alia, the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power.[8]

18. We call upon Member States to take steps, in accordance with their domestic laws, to promote access to justice, to consider the provision of legal aid to those who need it and to enable the effective assertion of their rights in the criminal justice system.

19. We note with concern the problem of trafficking in illicit drugs and the serious socio-economic consequences it entails, and therefore call for the strengthening of international cooperation in combating that form of organized crime.

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[8] General Assembly resolution 40/34, annex.

20. We will strengthen international cooperation in order to create an environment that is conducive to the fight against crime, including by promoting growth and sustainable development and eradicating poverty and unemployment by means of effective and balanced development strategies and crime prevention policies.

21. We call upon States that have not yet done so to become parties to and implement the universal instruments against terrorism. In order to enhance the capacity of States to become parties to and implement those instruments and to comply with the relevant Security Council resolutions against terrorism, we express our support for the continuing efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate and in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate of the Security Council, to assist States in their efforts to ratify and implement those instruments, through the provision of technical assistance upon request. This might include assistance to criminal justice systems to facilitate the effective implementation of those instruments.

22. We express the hope that the ongoing negotiation of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism will be concluded as soon as possible. In this context, we recognize that arriving at a possible definition of terrorism is one of the key issues to be resolved. We call upon Member States to consider signing and ratifying the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism.[9]

23. We are convinced that the expeditious entry into force and subsequent implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption are central to the efforts made at the international level to fight corruption and therefore accord high priority to supporting efforts to that end and call upon all States that have not yet done so to seek to sign, ratify or accede to the Convention.

24. We are also convinced that the proper management of public affairs and public property and the rule of law are essential to the prevention and control of corruption, including, inter alia, through effective measures for its investigation and prosecution. Furthermore, we recognize that, in order to curb corruption, it is necessary to promote a culture of integrity and accountability in both the public and the private sector.

25. We are convinced that asset recovery is one of the essential components of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and, for that reason, we emphasize the need to adopt measures to facilitate asset recovery that are consistent with the principles of that Convention.

26. We are conscious of the challenge of investigating and prosecuting complex cases involving economic and financial crimes, including money-laundering. We call upon Member States to strengthen policies, measures and institutions for national action and international cooperation in the prevention, investigation and prosecution of economic and financial crimes, including money-laundering, and such crimes conducted by means of, or facilitated by, information technologies, in particular in connection with the financing of terrorism and trafficking in illicit drugs.

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[9] General Assembly resolution 59/290, annex.

27. We are conscious of the crucial importance of tackling document and identity fraud in order to curb organized crime and terrorism. We seek to improve international cooperation, including through technical assistance, to combat document and identity fraud, in particular the fraudulent use of travel documents, through improved security measures, and encourage the adoption of appropriate national legislation.

28. We recommend that voluntary contributions and appropriate technical assistance be made available to developing countries to strengthen their capacity in order to support their efforts to fight effectively economic and financial crimes.

29. As appropriate, we endeavour to use and apply the United Nations standards and norms in our national programmes for crime prevention and criminal justice reform and to undertake, as needed, efforts to ensure their wider dissemination. We endeavour to facilitate appropriate training for law enforcement officials, including prison officials, prosecutors, the judiciary and other relevant professional groups, taking into account those norms and standards and best practices at the international level.

30. We recommend that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice give consideration to reviewing the adequacy of standards and norms in relation to prison management and prisoners.

31. We note with concern that the physical and social conditions associated with imprisonment may facilitate the spread of HIV/AIDS in pre-trial and correctional facilities and thus in society, thereby presenting a critical prison management problem; we call upon States to develop and adopt measures and guidelines, where appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, to ensure that the particular problems of HIV/AIDS are adequately addressed in such facilities.

32. To promote the interests of victims and the rehabilitation of offenders, we recognize the importance of further developing restorative justice policies, procedures and programmes that include alternatives to prosecution, thereby avoiding possible adverse effects of imprisonment, helping to decrease the caseload of criminal courts and promoting the incorporation of restorative justice approaches into criminal justice systems, as appropriate.

33. We affirm our determination to pay particular attention to juvenile justice. We will consider ways to ensure the provision of services to children who are victims of crime and children in conflict with law, in particular those deprived of their liberty, and to ensure that those services take into account their gender, social circumstances and developmental needs and the relevant United Nations standards and norms, as appropriate.

34. We stress the need to consider measures to prevent the expansion of urban crime, including by improving international cooperation and capacity-building for law enforcement and the judiciary in that area and by promoting the involvement of local authorities and civil society.

35. We express our profound gratitude to the people and the Government of Thailand for their warm and generous hospitality towards the participants and for the excellent facilities provided for the Eleventh Congress.

22. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of crime prevention and criminal justice

The General Assembly takes note of the following reports:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin (A/60/157);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/60/172).